

Native Dispute Resolution Network Member Update May 2005

Updates and Happenings

Updated Materials: Last fall and winter, the U.S. Institute revised Native Dispute Resolution Network materials including a brochure and a one-page “just-the-facts” information sheet. These materials are available to Network members to circulate at meetings, workshops and other venues. Network materials are also available on the U.S. Institute website, including the materials describing how individuals can join the Network, go to: www.ecr.gov/naan/naan.htm. Reminder: **there is no deadline for submitting materials to the Network.**

New Members: In January 2005 the U.S. Institute initiated a new round of outreach to potential Network Members, sending materials to 65 individuals, the majority self-identified as Native people. To date there is one new member, materials of an additional potential member are under review and four additional Native practitioners expressed the intent to submit materials. Please encourage your colleagues and associates to become Network members.

Outreach: The U.S. Institute staff continues to conduct outreach activities to specific audiences. Materials were provided at the Native American Indian Court Judges Association (CA), the Federal Indian Law Conference (NM), and the National Tribal Environmental Council Conference (WI). Future meetings include the National Tribal Environmental Managers Conference (MI) and the fall meeting of the United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated. Please help spread the word about the Network at meetings and workshops. The short overview of the Network is attached. Please feel free to copy and disseminate it.

Referrals from the Native Network

“Referral” means that the Roster Manager, (Joan) provided Network member information to individuals or entities seeking assistance in collaborative dispute resolution. Referrals are either for external or internal purposes:

- External: A request made from outside of the U.S. Institute
- Internal: A request made by a U.S. Institute Program Manager

Searches/Referrals August 2004 – April 2005

External Referrals: 11
Internal Referrals: 2

Primary requestors: Department of the Interior: Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution; the Bureau of Indian Affairs; the Environmental Protection Agency; and Tribes.

Opportunities to Share Experiences and Skills

Member Listserv. The Network Member listserv had several engaging conversation threads last fall and winter. We encourage you to continue to use the member listserv as a forum for engaging each other in approaches to our work in collaborative dispute resolution and as a forum for posing those thought-provoking questions.

Planning for the **Skills Exchange Workshop** is underway and the US Institute selected two training teams to lead the two workshop tracks. Jon and Suzanne Townsend of Agreements Work will facilitate the practitioner-participant track and Mary Margaret Golten of CDR Associates and Roberta Reyes Cordero, JD, of Interpersonal to Intercultural Communication will facilitate the practitioner-practitioner track. The workshop will be held at the San Carlos Apache Casino and Resort near Globe Arizona August 16-19, 2005. The anticipated audience for the workshop includes tribal leaders, tribal judges and attorneys, American Indian law students and program staff of both federal and tribal government agencies. Participation in the workshop will be limited to 30 people, selected by invitation.

The workshop is supported with funding from the **JAMS Foundation**, the **National Tribal Environmental Council**, the **Department of the Interior's Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution**, the **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Office of Dispute Resolution**, and the **U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution**. Dialogue is ongoing with additional program sponsors.

Looking to the Future

Thank you for your support and participation in fulfilling the vision and mission of the Network. As you have ideas and suggestions in the ongoing development of the Network, please share them. Contact Joan or Sarah at Nativenetwork@ecr.gov.